

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 11, 2003

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on August 11, 2003 in Room 830, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

In absence of a quorum, President Jernigan called a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 10:10 a.m., followed by introductions. The following Commissioners were present for the roll call:

President Jernigan
Treasurer Lesser
Commissioner Cooperman
Commissioner Morgan
Commissioner Rodriguez

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jernigan reported the following:

- She spoke about the effort to recall California Governor Gray Davis. She expressed disappointment in the high costs for a recall election in the midst of a budget crisis where funds for schools are being cut and medical facilities for the poor are being closed.
- She attended a financial planning seminar which focused on women & finance. The strategy planning for women was helpful to those who are trying to make headway for a financially independent and comfortable retirement.
- She spoke about "Salt in Your Socks," a book about tried and true home remedies written by Dr. Lillian Beard.
- She also attended a reception in Glendora for The Honorable Kevin Brazile, in recognition of his appointment by Governor Davis as Judge to the Los Angeles County Superior Court. Judge Brazile was most recently a lawyer with the Office of the County Counsel. Judge Brazile's bench is in the City of El Monte.
- She shared an August 1, 2003 *L.A. Times* newspaper article regarding the L.A. County Health Department's year-end surplus that was \$103 million more than expected, making the Health Department's total surplus budget \$225 million; and an article about the rise in college tuition for the UC and Cal State systems which has shut out thousands of students who cannot afford the higher costs.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Lesser reported the Commission for Women's budget, including expenditures and income, for the months of June and July of 2003.

(Commissioner Creary joined the meeting).

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the findings of a British clinical study titled 'Million Women Study' that focused on the effects of hormone replacement therapy on breast cancer. The study found that HRT's places women at increased risk of developing breast cancer. The use of HRT's by British women aged between 50 and 64 has caused an estimated 20,000 extra breast cancers over the past decade. The study took place from 1996 to 2001. Of the women surveyed, 9,400 developed breast cancer after an average 2.5 years, with 630 women dying of the disease after an average of 4 years. The study found that the risk of breast cancer rose in proportion to the length of the HRT's use, but that the increased risk appeared to wear off a few years after discontinuing the therapy.

THE PASADENA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN DISCUSSED PLANS FOR THE 2004 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMMISSIONS FOR WOMEN CONVENTION

Pasadena Commission Chairperson Roxanne Mayo-Turner and Executive Director Nadine Washington discussed the following:

- The Pasadena Commission will host the 2004 NACW at the Hilton Hotel in Pasadena on July 13-18 with the theme "Many Voices, Many Choices."
- They will coordinate an Events Planning Committee to organize entertainment and relaxation activities.
- A kick-off Fundraising Committee meeting will take place on the evening of September 27, 2003.
- The first Community Planning Committee meeting will take place on the evening of October 1, 2003.
- They would like to have creative and alternative presentations on domestic violence at the 2004 Convention, such as visual productions by "A Window between Worlds," a non-profit organization dedicated to using art to help end domestic violence.
- Ms. Mayo-Turner and Ms. Washington will keep the LACCW updated as the concept for this project becomes a more concrete plan of action.

President Jernigan offered to provide the Pasadena Commission with a LACCW representative. She also suggested that Pasadena Commissioners attend the 5K Run/Walk for Girls-at-Risk to network and recruit volunteers for the Convention. Commissioner Rodriguez offered to contact Pauline Field of the Glendale Commission for Women, which will be officially established in January 2004.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health Committee/Domestic Violence Subcommittee

Commissioner Creary donated to the Commission for Women Library a copy of the National Health and Nutrition Survey booklet "Racial Differences in Cardiovascular Health." She spoke of a seminar she attended at the National Medical Convention in Philadelphia where Dr. Carl Dukes of San Antonio, Texas gave a Power Point presentation about health care disparities among African-Americans in the 21st Century. Dr. Dukes will send his Power Point presentation to Commissioner Creary so this information can be presented to Commission for Women and other interested County departments and agencies.

Commissioner Rodriguez reported that Domestic Violence Subcommittee met this morning in Room 830 9 a.m. The Subcommittee discussed an extended list of issues that they will begin to investigate.

Staff will work with Education Subcommittee Chair Becerra-Jones and Vice Chair Cooperman to coordinate a meeting in the near future.

Media/Public Relations Committee

Commissioner Morgan reported that the Media/PR Committee will meet on August 25, 2003 at 9 a.m. in Room 830.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Ruth Jernigan, President
Charlotte Lesser, Treasurer
Roslyn Cooperman
Ruth Creary, Ph.D.
Lila Morgan
Olivia Rodriguez

EXCUSED

Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Reiko Duba
Yvonne Mariajimenez
Janet Mummey, Esq.
Barbara Perkins

UNEXCUSED

Sophia Esparza
Susan Carpenter-McMillan
Brenda C. Smith, M.D.

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Khanh Nguyen, Executive Office
Jim Corbett, Executive Office
Cheryl Diaz, Executive Office
Audra Galang, Executive Office
Barbara Petite, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

GUESTS

Debbie Beaterman, Jewish Family Service & Guidance
Rose Borja
Roxanne Mayo-Turner, Pasadena Commission on the Status of Women
Nadine Washington, Pasadena Commission on the Status of Women